

Message Text

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FOR INR/DDC

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TAGS: EIND, FR, UR

SUBJ: FRANCO-SOVIET COOPERATION IN COMPUTER AREA

1. ARTICLE IN FEBRUARY 26 ISSUE OF TASS ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL NEWSLETTER GIVES INTERESTING RUN-DOWN ON CURRENT STATUS OF FRANCO-SOVIET COOPERATION IN COMPUTER AREA AND DISCUSSES POSSIBILITIES FOR FUTURE. ACCORDING TO TASS ARTICLE, JOINT EFFORTS AT PRESENT CENTER ON CII-MADE "IRIS-50" SYSTEM INSTALLED IN MINISTRY OF THE ELECTRONIC INDUSTRY'S "INFORMELEKTRO" INSTITUTE IN MOSCOW. FRENCH AND SOVIET EXPERTS HAVE THUS FAR CONCENTRATED ON CLARIFICATION OF SYSTEM'S CAPACITIES. THEY HAVE ALSO ESTABLISHED DATA BANK AND DEVELOPED INFORMATION RETRIEVAL PROGRAMS COVERING "TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC INDICATORS OF ELECTROTECHNICAL PRODUCTS." EXPERTS ALSO WORKING ON DIRECT LINK-UP OF "IRIS-50" AND SOVIET "MINSK-32" SYSTEMS, BUT ARTICLE MAKES CLEAR THAT THIS WORK STILL IN PROGRESS. SOME SUCCESS HAS APPARENTLY BEEN ACHIEVED, HOWEVER, IN LINKING MEMORY UNITS OF TWO SYSTEMS.

2. LOOKING AHEAD, ARTICLE NOTES THAT FRENCH HAVE OFFERED SELL SOVIETS ADDITIONAL SYSTEMS ON BASIS CREDITS WHILE SOVIETS HAVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EXPRESSED INTEREST IN SELLING ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS TO FRANCE.

CII IS SAID TO BE NEGOTIATING WITH USSR MINISTRY OF ELECTROTECHNICAL
INDUSTRY ON SALE OF "IRIS-80" SYSTEM, WHILE MINISTRY OF GEOLOGY
IS REPORTED INTERESTED IN SEISMIC RESEARCH EQUIPMENT BASED
ON "IRIS-80" SYSTEM. ANOTHER POSSIBLE SOVIET PURCHASE MENTIONED
IN ARTICLE IS AIR-TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM ("COTRA") WHICH ALSO
BASED ON "IRIS-80". ARTICLE ALSO STATES THAT "OBVIOUSLY" SIEMENS
AND PHILIPS WILL ALSO BECOME INVOLVED IN CII'S COOPERATIVE
PROJECTS INVOLVING USSR.
STOESSEL

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